

MEMORANDUM FOR:

DCI 19 JUN 1984

13 June

Two items from Rob Simmons, via of OLL:

--A "Clark Amendment" on Nicaragua to be introduced on the Senate floor tomorrow by Kennedy and Bingaman. It would be presented as an amendment to the FY 85 Defense Authorization Bill.

--SSCI draft press release exonerating the Agency from any wrongdoing or impropriety concerning the Nicaragua spending cap. According to Simmons, Senator Moynihan is holding this press release, preventing its publication.

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United States Senate

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

June 6, 1984

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Dear Colleague:

We are writing to seek your support for an amendment we intend to offer to the Defense Department FY 1985 Authorization Bill. This amendment would cut off U.S. support for paramilitary activities in Nicaragua.

We opposed the Administration's covert war against Nicaragua when the Senate debated the issue last April. The arguments against funding the contras are even stronger today. We know now what the contras are and are not doing in Nicaragua. We know that

- the contras are engaged in acts of terror directed against the civilian, non-combatant population of Nicaragua;
- the contras are trying to destroy the economic infrastructure of the Nicaraguan nation;
- the contras' chief aim is to overthrow the government of Nicaragua; and
- the contras are not about the business of interdicting supplies from Nicaragua to the Salvadoran guerrillas.

Since April 4, we have also learned more about U.S. involvement in that war. We have learned that

- U.S. personnel played a direct role in the mining of the harbors in Nicaragua;
- U.S. personnel participated in attacks on oil facilities in Nicaragua; and
- U.S. personnel directed air-strikes against targets in Nicaragua.

We are that much closer to direct involvement of U.S. troops in Nicaragua and that much further away from peace in the region.

We certainly welcome Secretary of Shultz's visit to Managua last week, and we certainly wish every success for this

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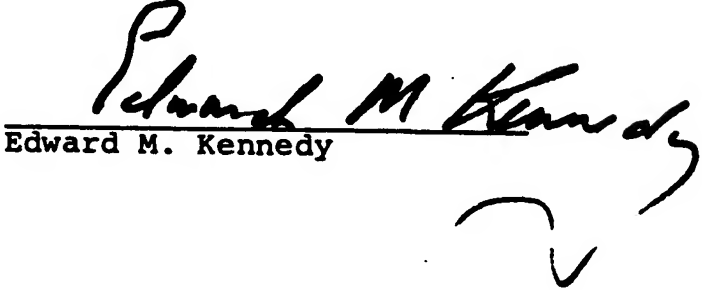
long-overdue effort at diplomacy. But that trip has not resulted in any change in President Reagan's policies, nor in the aims and activities of the contras.

We have all read reports that the Administration is using a variety of methods to finance military and intelligence activities in Central America, that these methods are intended to circumvent normal Congressional oversight. Today, for example, the New York Times reported there was evidence that the CIA has spent more than the \$24 million authorized for FY 1984, despite an explicit prohibition against using funds from any other account for this purpose.

U.S. support of the contras is counterproductive: it violates international law and damages U.S. prestige throughout the world; it expands -- rather than isolates -- the conflict in the region; it has impeded negotiations, according to the Contadora Group; and it has diminished -- rather than enhanced -- the prospects for pluralism in Nicaragua.

Regardless of one's position on supplemental funding for the contras for the remainder of this fiscal year, we hope you will agree that this funding should be terminated in FY 1985. We urge you to join with us and to vote to stop U.S. support for the "secret" war in Nicaragua.

Sincerely yours,


Jeff Bingaman
Edward M. Kennedy

AMENDMENT NO. _____ **Ex.** _____ **Calendar No.** _____

Purpose: To end United States support for the Secret War in Nicaragua

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES— _____ **Cong.,** _____ **Sess.**

S. Amendment to S. 2723 _____

H.R. _____ **(or Treaty** _____ **)**

SHORT TITLE

(title) Amendment to End U.S. Support for the Secret War in Nicaragua

☐ Referred to the Committee on _____

and ordered to be printed

☐ Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

INTENDED to be proposed by Kennedy - Bingaman _____

Viz: At the appropriate place add the following:

1 "Notwithstanding any other provision, statute or resolution,
2 no funds may be expended for the purpose or which would
3 have the effect of supporting, directly or indirectly,
4 military or paramilitary operations in Nicaragua by any
5 nation, group, organization, movement or individual."
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